Applicant: Michael P. Cornaby et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 10559-642001 / P12486

Serial No.: 10/032,154

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Page : 2 of 11

Amendments to the Specification:

Please delete previous abstract at page 35 and add the following <u>new</u> abstract:

Methods and apparatus, including computer program products, for a microinstruction pointer stack in a processor. A method executed in a processor includes executing microcode (μ code) addressed by pointers stored in an out-of-order microinstruction pointer (μ IP) stack, and manipulating the μ IP stack with a set of microinstructions.